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A LEISURE ARTS PUBLICATION

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- GUARDIAN ANGEL
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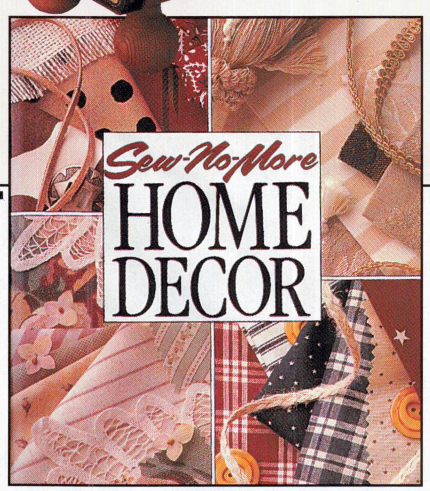

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VOLUME 6, NUMBER 4

FOR THE LOVE OF Cross Stitch

JANUARY 1994

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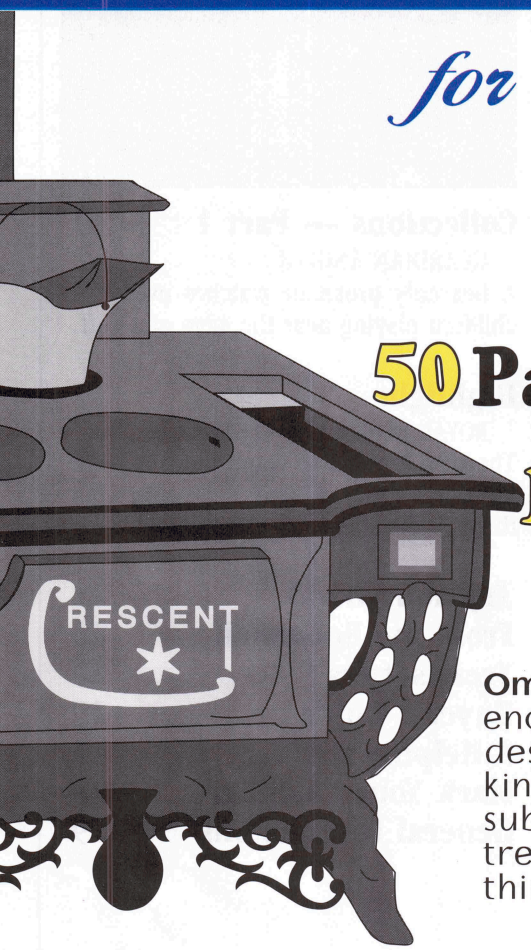

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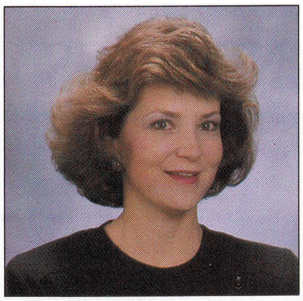


Dear Friends,

For as long as I can remember, I've been fascinated with stories about angels — especially guardian angels. We've all had times when it seems we were led from harm's way by some watchful hand, and I love the idea that someone up there is looking out for us, even when we're asleep.

Recently while looking through my collection of antique postcards, I discovered the two beautiful designs featured in our new series, *Guardian Angels.* The designs are from the early 1900's, and it's reassuring to know that so many people before us have been believing in these diligent protectors. I'm sure you'll enjoy these timeless designs just as much as I do.

Also in this issue, we're pleased to present our newest color of Anne Cloth — Royal Blue. A vibrant shade, it makes an exciting backdrop for the sky-riding Santa on page 23. We first introduced Anne Cloth in our Premier Issue with a single color, Soft White. Now it's available in 20 colors and windowpane plaids!

Just in case the holiday rush has you on a tight schedule, we've included several nice projects that can be made at the last minute. Our *Jar Toppers and Tags* (page 6) are super quick and easy, and the *Teatime Poinsettias* (page 18) will lend a festive touch to your Christmas repasts.

My wish for you is a joyous Christmas and a happy new year!

Always,

Anne

Anne Van Wagner Childs, Editor-in-Chief

So, up to the house-top the coursers they flew, With a sleigh full of toys, — and St. Nicholas too. And then in a twinkling I heard on the roof The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.

— CLEMENT CLARKE MOORE

EDITOR'S SCRAPBOOK

LETTERS

We want to hear from you, and cross stitch is our favorite subject! We'd love to know what role cross stitch plays in your life, how you got started, your most exciting project, etc. Send your letters to "Editor's Scrapbook," For The Love Of Cross Stitch, *P.O. Box 5595, Little Rock, Arkansas 72215.*

I just had to write and let you know how much I enjoy *For The Love Of Cross Stitch.* I especially like the "Portrait of a Designer" feature. I have recently begun experimenting with designing cross stitch patterns. My goal is to have a career in cross stitch designing, which is why I enjoy reading about how other designers got their start. Nancy Dockter's *Tropical Fish* (July 1993) was absolutely beautiful. I very much enjoyed reading about her and her exciting designing career. Thank you for such a wonderful magazine and your focus on such talented designers.

Cheryl Hamilton, Pascagoula, Mississippi

It's hard to imagine a time when stitchery was not a part of my life. When I was growing up, my mom was always working on a project. It wasn't until I was a stay-at-home mom, however, that I started doing some crewel. Then my friend Mary came into my life, and we became fast "stitching sisters." We both began dabbling in cross stitch, and before you knew it, we were hooked. Now it's a passion for both of us, and with the introduction of waste canvas, we're busy stitching on towels, baby clothes, and place mats. We have probably tried every other cross stitch magazine out there, but we agree that yours tops them all. It's well laid out, with easy-to-read charts. We love the recipes and the Buyer's Guide. And it's just a pretty magazine to look through. Keep up the good work.

Judy Davis, White Rock, British Columbia

I would like to share an idea that I devised in order to keep track of my stitching projects.

Each time I complete a project, I record its name, brand of floss used, any specialty threads included, color and brand of fabric, and name and page number of source book, leaflet, or magazine.

If the item is a gift, I also record the recipient's name and occasion for the gift. An easy way to access this information is to put each project on an index card and file it under the person's name. That way, you can quickly recall what gifts you've given each person and whether a coordinating gift would be appropriate. Each person also has an introduction card, which records their birthday, anniversary, decorating colors, favorite designers, and themes.

I also keep a separate perpetual calendar so that I can keep track of when projects need to be finished, as I like to approximate the length of time a project requires, which is especially helpful for bulk items like handmade Christmas cards. Leisure Arts continues to inspire me. Thank you.

Mrs. Michael Flynn, Attleboro, Massachusetts

When I saw Polly Carbonari's *Tally Ho Sampler* in the September 1993 issue, I immediately knew I had to stitch it for my friends in Indiana. Believe it or not, they live on Tally Ho Court in Kokomo.

Joan Ferrell, Grand Blanc, Michigan

I wanted to show you this picture (below) of my daughters and myself in our Christmas sweatshirts. As soon as I received the January 1993 issue last year, I wanted to get started on shirts for my family. It was a chore to find the time to cross stitch them before Christmas, but we received so many compliments that I was glad I took the extra time! I also have a 2-year-old son, but I need a design with a green tractor for him. Do you have any John Deere tractor designs?

Annette Smith, Georgetown, Illinois

Dear Annette,

Thank you for sharing your family photograph. You'll find a wonderful design featuring a green tractor and cute little "farm family" bunnies for your son in our leaflet, Harvest Hill *(#2142). Ask for this leaflet at your local needlecraft shop or see our Buyer's Guide on page 28.*

Annette Smith (second from left) and her daughters, Amanda, Jacqueline, and Kaitlin are certainly a cheery sight with these holiday designs from the January 1993 issue. We were especially delighted to see that the design for little Kaitlin's shirt was adapted from the Holiday Rider Mug *design. How clever!*

JAR TOPPERS AND TAGS

This holiday season, top off a present of store-bought candy, homemade jam, or other goodies with one of these jar lid and gift tag sets stitched on perforated paper. Quick and easy to create, the designs are great beginner projects.

Note: For all projects, see Working On Perforated Paper, page 29.

Jar Lids: Designs #1 and #2 were each stitched on a 6" square of Natural Perforated Paper (14 ct). Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch. Design #1 was inserted in a small mouth jar lid; Design #2 was inserted in a large mouth jar lid.

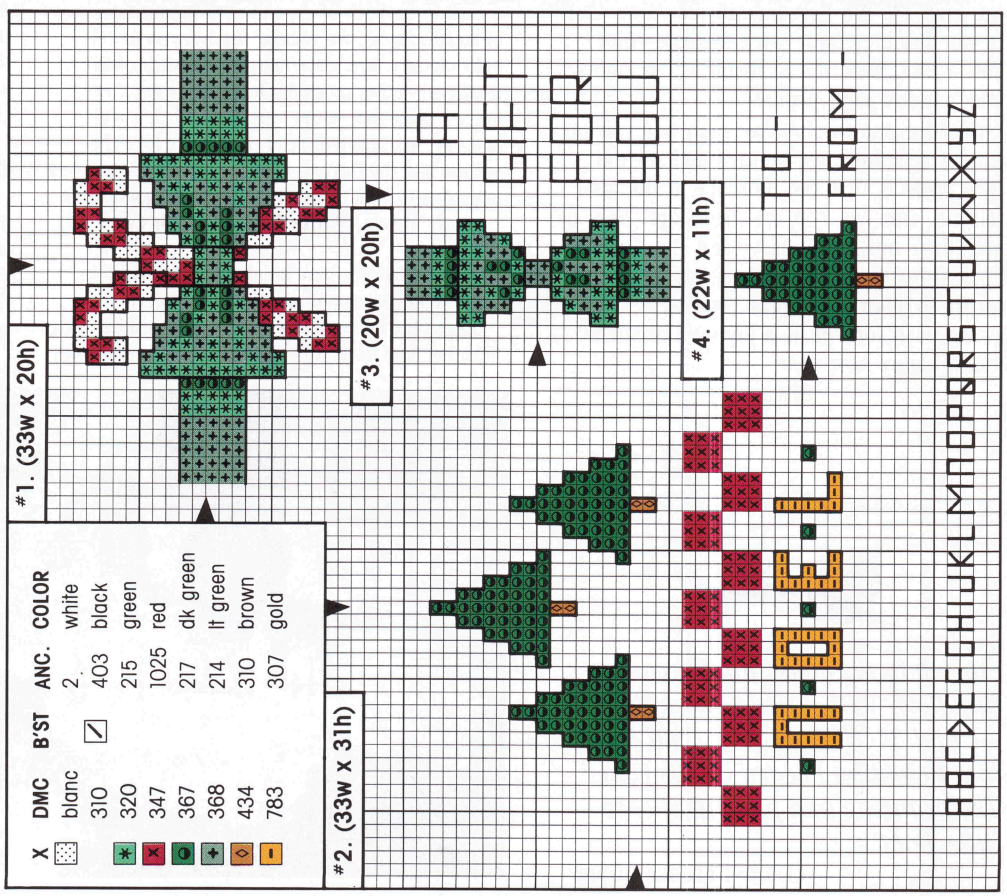
For each jar lid, center jar ring over stitched design and draw a circle on perforated paper around **outside** edge of ring. Cut out stitched design, cutting slightly inside drawn line. Cut a piece of heavy bond paper the same size as stitched piece for backing. Glue stitched design inside jar lid; glue backing to wrong side of stitched piece.

Gift Tags: Designs #3 and #4 were each stitched on a 5" square of Natural Perforated Paper (14 ct). Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch. For Design #4, center design vertically with left edge of design 1" from one edge of paper; refer to photo and use alphabet provided to personalize tag.

For each gift tag, trim perforated paper 2 squares from edge of design on all sides. Cut a piece of heavy bond paper slightly larger than stitched design. Center and glue wrong side of stitched design to bond paper. Use a small hole punch to make a hole in bond paper for ribbon.

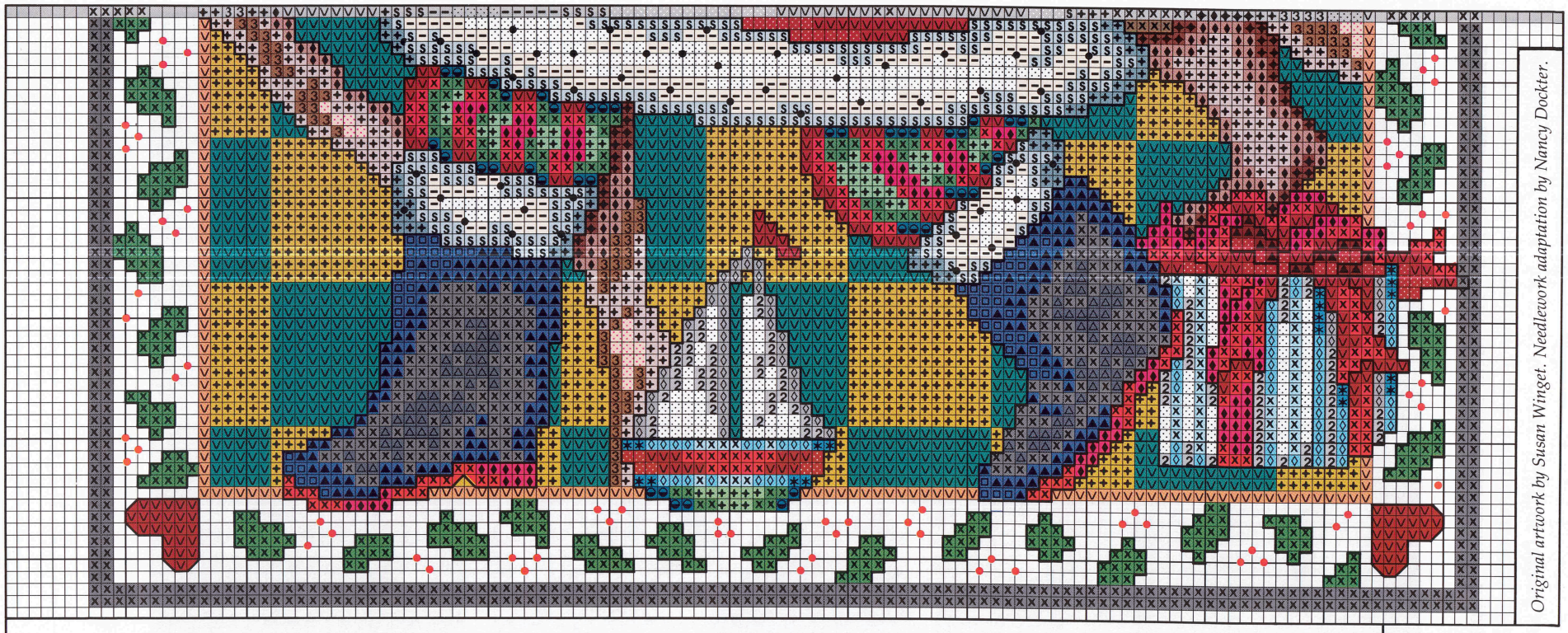
See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

Designed by Jane Chandler.



IN A TWINKLING

A familiar verse from "The Night Before Christmas" inspired our enchanting Yuletide portrait of Santa and his reindeer friend. Stitched in deep, rich holiday colors, this magical design will deliver cheer for years to come, whether framed as shown on the front cover or finished as a wall hanging.



Original artwork by Susan Winget. Needlework adaptation by Nancy Dockter.

IN A TWINKLING (124w x 144h)

X	DMC	¼X	½X	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
⋰	blanc	⋰			2	white
○	301				1049	rust
V	304	◢			1006	red
▨	310	◢		⁄	403	black
X	317				400	steel grey
⊖	319				218	dk green
+	320				215	lt green
✱	334				977	dk blue
♦	* 349 & 350					
✦	353	◢			6	dk peach
■	356			⁄	5975	vy dk salmon
X	367			⁄	217	green
$	400				351	dk rust
▲	413				401	dk steel grey
◊	415				398	lt steel grey
♦	433	◢			358	brown
+	434	◢			310	lt brown
3	435				1046	dk tan
2	436				1045	tan
△	451	◢			233	blue grey
⊙	452				232	lt blue grey

X	DMC	¼X	½X	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
V	501				878	blue green
X	610				889	vy dk khaki
✱	611		-	⁄	898	dk khaki
◊	612		⊖		832	khaki
	613		+		831	lt khaki
▨	645			⁄	273	dk grey
4	646				8581	grey
+	647				1040	lt grey
C	648				900	dk beige grey
3	676	◢			891	lt gold
-	677				886	vy lt gold
⊖	680				901	dk gold
+	729	◢			890	gold
△	738	◢			361	lt tan
⋰	739	◢			387	vy lt tan
⋰	754	◢			1012	peach
☆	758	◢			882	salmon
2	762				234	vy lt steel grey
♦	801	◢			359	dk brown
▲	814				45	vy dk red
⋰	815	◢			43	dk red

X	DMC	¼X	½X	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
X	817	◢			13	lt red
-	822	◢			390	lt beige grey
◆	844				1041	vy dk grey
★	920				1004	dk orange
□	921				1003	orange
V	922				1003	lt orange
▬	930	◢			1035	grey blue
X	948				1011	lt peach
$	3024	◢			397	beige grey
X	3325				129	lt blue
◊	3755				140	blue
△	3776				1048	lt rust
▲	3778				1013	dk salmon
⋰	3779	◢			868	lt salmon
▨	3799				236	vy dk steel grey

● black French Knot

● Mill Hill Glass Seed Bead #00431 Jade

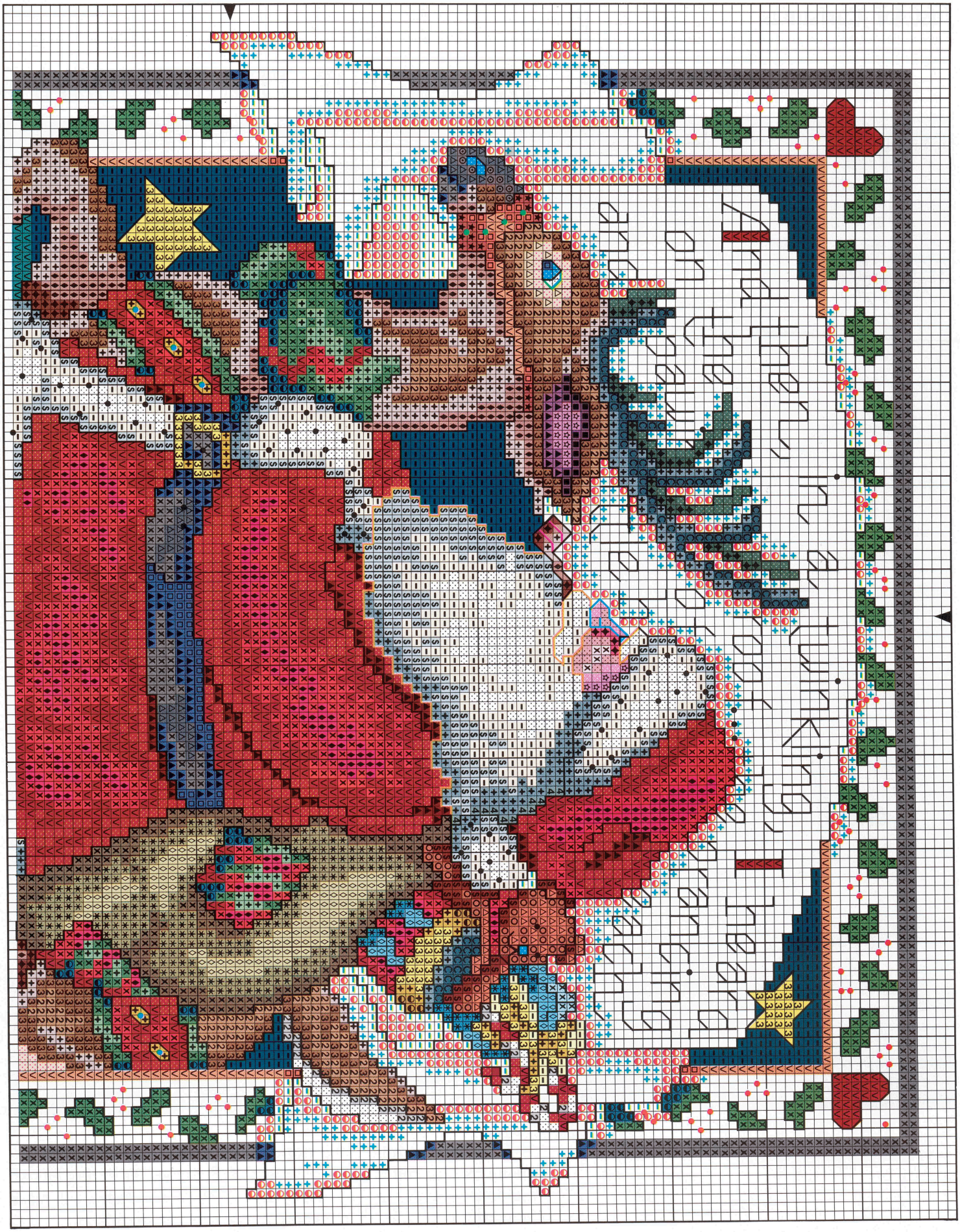
● Mill Hill Glass Seed Bead #00557 Old Gold

● Mill Hill Glass Seed Bead #02013 Red Red

Grey area indicates last row of top section of design.

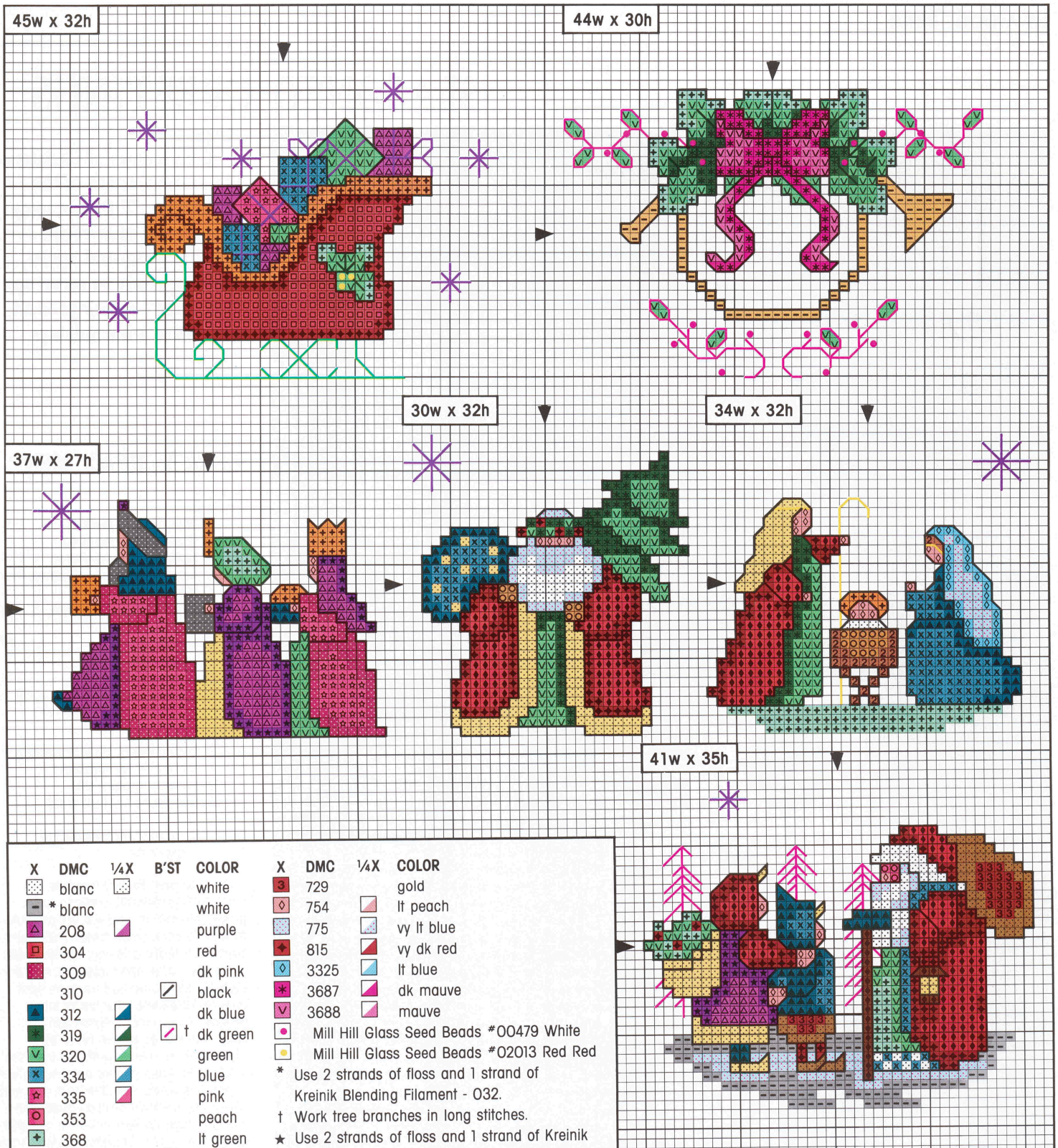
* Use 1 strand of DMC 349 and 2 strands of DMC 350.

Note: For each project the design was stitched on an 18" x 20" piece of Mushroom Lugana (25 ct). The design was stitched over 2 fabric threads. Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch (unless otherwise noted in color key) and 1 for Backstitch and French Knots.
On the Cover: In A Twinkling was custom framed.
On page 7: In A Twinkling was made into a wall hanging. See Wall Hanging Finishing, page 29. See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.



HEARTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

This heartwarming collection of holiday tree-trimmers offers a unique way for you to share the spirit of Christmas. Featuring lots of traditional symbols of the season, the miniature ornaments will make thoughtful little gifts for co-workers, teachers, or neighbors.



X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	COLOR
⬚	blanc	⬚		white
▬ *	blanc			white
△	208	◪		purple
□	304			red
▩	309			dk pink
	310		⁄	black
▲	312	◪		dk blue
✱	319	◪	⁄ †	dk green
V	320	◪		green
✕	334	◪		blue
☆	335	◪		pink
○	353			peach
✚	368			lt green
▩ ★	414	◪	⁄ ◒	grey
▩	433	◪	⁄	dk brown
2	434	◪		brown
○	435			lt brown
♦	498	◪		dk red
★	552	◪		dk purple
⬚	676	◪		lt gold
✚ △	676	◪	⁄ ♦	lt gold
▩	680	◪		dk gold
▬ △	725	◪		yellow

X	DMC	¼X	COLOR
3	729	◪	gold
◊	754	◪	lt peach
⬚	775	◪	vy lt blue
♦	815	◪	vy dk red
◊	3325	◪	lt blue
✱	3687	◪	dk mauve
V	3688	◪	mauve
●			Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads #00479 White
●			Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads #02013 Red Red

* Use 2 strands of floss and 1 strand of Kreinik Blending Filament - 032.

† Work tree branches in long stitches.

★ Use 2 strands of floss and 1 strand of Kreinik Blending Filament - 001HL.

◒ Use 1 strand of floss and 1 strand of Kreinik Blending Filament - 001HL.

△ Use 2 strands of floss and 1 strand of Kreinik Blending Filament - 002HL.

♦ Use 1 strand of floss and 1 strand of Kreinik Blending Filament - 002HL. Work stars in long stitches.

Each design was stitched on an 8" square of Ivory Aida (14 ct). Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch (unless otherwise noted in color key). They were made into ornaments. See Ornament Finishing, page 29.

See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

Designed by Lorraine Birmingham.

SEASONED GREETINGS

The aromas of Christmas add to the warmth of the celebration. With our spicy Gingerbread Men recipe and this whimsical apron, you'll be ready to serve up "seasoned" greetings to all who share your holidays.

GINGERBREAD MEN

CAKE

- 1¼ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- ¾ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup butter or margarine, softened
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 egg
- ½ cup hot coffee
- ½ cup molasses

ICING

- 2 cups firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 cup butter or margarine
- ½ cup evaporated milk
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract

Holly and berry candies to decorate

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. For cake, sift together flour, baking soda, ginger, cinnamon, and salt in a medium bowl. In a large bowl, cream butter and sugar until fluffy; add egg, beating well. Stir in hot coffee and molasses. Add dry ingredients to creamed mixture; beat until well blended. Pour batter into a greased 10 x 15-inch jellyroll pan lined with waxed paper. Bake 18 to 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in center of cake comes out clean. Cool in pan 5 minutes. Remove from pan and cool completely on waxed paper. Use a 3¼-inch high cookie cutter to cut out gingerbread men. Transfer to a wire rack with waxed paper underneath.

For icing, combine brown sugar, butter, and milk in a medium heavy saucepan. Stirring constantly, bring to a boil over medium heat. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Beat icing with a spoon until cool. Placing each cake on a fork, hold over icing and spoon icing onto top and sides of cake. Place cakes on wire rack. Decorate with holly and berry candies; allow icing to harden. Store in an airtight container.

Yield: about 20 cakes

SEND US YOUR RECIPES!

Cross stitch and cooking are both great ways to create something special. If you have some recipes, designs, or ideas for combining cross stitch and cooking, we'd love to put them to work — and give you the credit! See "How to Write to Us" on page 27.

Seasoned Greetings was stitched over an 11" x 15" piece of 10 mesh waste canvas on a purchased apron. Five strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 2 for Backstitch.
See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

Original artwork by Vicky Howard. Needlework adaptation by Mike Vickery.

Working On Waste Canvas: Waste canvas is a special canvas that provides an evenweave grid for placing stitches on fabric. After the design is worked over the canvas, the canvas threads are removed, leaving the design on the fabric. The canvas is available in several mesh sizes.

1. Cover edges of canvas with masking tape.

2. Find desired stitching area on apron and mark center of area with a pin.

3. Match center of canvas to pin. Use the blue threads in canvas to place canvas straight on apron; pin canvas to apron. Baste all thicknesses together.

4. Place apron in a screw-type hoop. We recommend a hoop that is large enough to encircle entire design.

5. Using a sharp needle, work design, stitching from large holes to large holes.

6. Trim canvas to within ¾" of design. Dampen canvas until it becomes limp. Pull out canvas threads one at a time using tweezers. Trim interfacing close to design.

SEASONED GREETINGS

14 count	4¾"	x	7⅞"
16 count	4⅛"	x	6⅞"
18 count	3¾"	x	6⅛"
22 count	3"	x	5"

SEASONED GREETINGS (66w x 109h)

X	DMC	¼X	¾X	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
⁘	blanc	⁘			2	white
▒	310		◪	⁄	403	black
◒	304		◪		1006	dk red
▩	321	◪			9046	red
V	434	◪			310	brown
⊙	436	◪			1045	lt brown
★	498	◪			1005	vy dk red
−	666	◪			46	lt red
☆	762	◪			234	grey
✱	801	◪			359	dk brown
◆	909	◪			923	dk green
X	911	◪			205	green

DEBORAH LAMBEIN

One fall afternoon about 10 years ago, Deborah Lambein decided to hook a rug, so she went to her local needlecraft shop to get the supplies she needed. On the way inside, she noticed a sign in the window that said the shop offered cross stitch lessons. " 'What's cross stitch?' I asked," she recalls. "Little did I know what I was embarking on!"

Today, as a successful needlework designer, Deborah remembers taking her first cross stitch lesson that same day. "I was amazed at how versatile the colors were and the textures," she says. "I sat down with one other customer and began working on a little owl. I finished it so quickly! I was hooked!"

When the chart for Deborah's next project turned out to be difficult to read, she wondered if she could chart her own designs. "Having no formal art training, except junior high and high school classes, it took me a lot of experimenting before I succeeded. I have felt ever since then that in many ways I am attending school ... always studying, learning, experimenting."

Deborah says she learned a lot those first few years as an independent publisher and designer. "The main thing that helped me was that I kept asking questions." She says Merrell Golden (the owner of Golden Yarns and Needlecraft, where Deborah took her first lesson) was a tremendous help and support. "She pointed me in the right direction and told me about a needlework trade show in Atlanta. I went to the show, and I was just in awe!" she says. "I felt like I had stepped onto another planet where everyone spoke my language and understood how I felt as a designer. It inspired me to keep going and taught me a lot more about the business." More than 10 years later, a bit of wonderment can still be heard in her voice.

An avid cross stitcher, Deborah Lambein says she loves the final stage of designing when the graphed patterns come alive in the colors and textures of embroidery floss.

Filled with enthusiasm, Deborah returned home, where she consulted with local printers, graphic artists, and photographers about her ideas for publishing her designs. "I carried in leaflets from other publishers to give them a better idea of what I needed. It was difficult trying to explain to people not in the [needlecraft] business how to photograph a project," she says.

Her first designs, which she published herself under the name of Debra Designs, were of the Popeye® cartoon character. Because Popeye is licensed by King Features Syndicate, Inc., Deborah had to pay them a big annual fee for the right to chart and sell the design.

Around this same time, Deborah found that her first original design, *Country Flowers,* was selling better than the Popeye chart. "So I decided to concentrate solely on my own designs."

In 1990, when the family relocated from Florida to her native Ohio, Deborah was faced with the decision of whether or not to stay in the publishing end of the cross stitch business. "When Leisure Arts contacted me about doing some designing, it couldn't have come at a more perfect time," she says. "It was then that I decided to concentrate solely on designing."

Deborah says she feels truly blessed to be able to work full time as a designer. "I have to be in the creative field," she explains. "It's my passion. And, it's an idea that I try to pass on to my children — to find something in life that they can be passionate about."

Although deadlines often keep her working straight through till one in the morning, she says these creative marathons are only a small price to pay for "the privilege of not having someone standing behind me saying do this or don't do that." She adds, "There really is complete freedom of expression in this line of work. There are no boundaries, except for those laid out by the assignment."

Deborah believes her biggest challenge as a free-lance designer is measuring up to her potential and not disappointing herself. "Sometimes I have to purposely put a design aside," she says, "or I'll nitpick it to death. I can always see room for improvement."

A very detail-oriented artist, Deborah prefers the control and versatility of working with colored pencils and graphite. "My mom and dad always made sure I was furnished with a set of Venus Paradise Coloring Pencils when I was growing up," she remembers. Her father was an artist by trade, and her mother and both grandmothers were artistic as well. She says her family is thrilled about her success and has been very supportive.

"I've always loved detail and symmetry in design. This is probably why I love designing for cross stitch. I love working on a grid," she explains. An avid cross stitcher, Deborah says she loves the final stage of designing when the graphed patterns come alive on fabric through the beautiful colors and textures of embroidery floss. "It's truly a unique medium," she says.

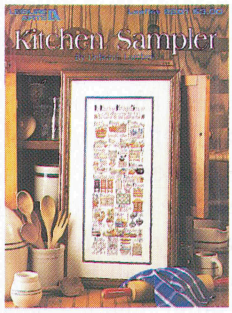
When she's not designing, Deborah enjoys pencil sketching, reading, watching old movies, and taking family excursions out in the country. "I love hunting for old quilts, folk art, and antique reproductions."

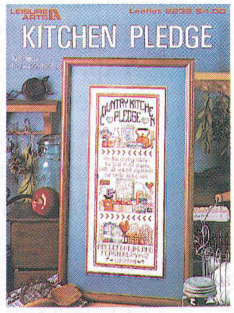
Many of her nostalgic finds often turn up in Deborah's signature-style samplers, such as *Kitchen Sweet Kitchen*. "Since many things in a kitchen are homemade, what better place to hang a homemade project! The inspiration for this design was all the things I could think of that were country and kitchen from A to Z." (For a list of Leisure Arts leaflets with Deborah's designs, see the Buyer's Guide on page 27.)

Working out of her in-home studio, Deborah says cross stitch is a never-ending opportunity for creative expression. "I'm constantly experimenting, and much of the time my style will reflect the needs of a particular assignment."

She says there are many designs that she'd eventually like to complete. "There are all kinds of drawers in my mind, and everyday I try to open some of them. I'm never sure what will pop out!" she says. "Sometimes the drawers are locked

Deborah's Kitchen Sweet Kitchen *captures some of her favorite country images.*





Typical of Deborah's style, these leaflets and the sampler featured in this issue reflect her love for the simple pleasures of life.

and I say, 'Okay, I'll leave that for now, while I'm working on something else.' "

Although designing takes up most of Deborah's time, she says it also leaves plenty of time for family and home.

She and her husband, Carl, have two children: Jennifer, 19, who started college last fall, and Carl III, 16, a high school student. It seems Deborah will be the only one not attending school this year, because her husband, a retired developer, is taking classes, too. She'll have the family's two Himalayan cats, Ashley and Henry, to keep her company, though.

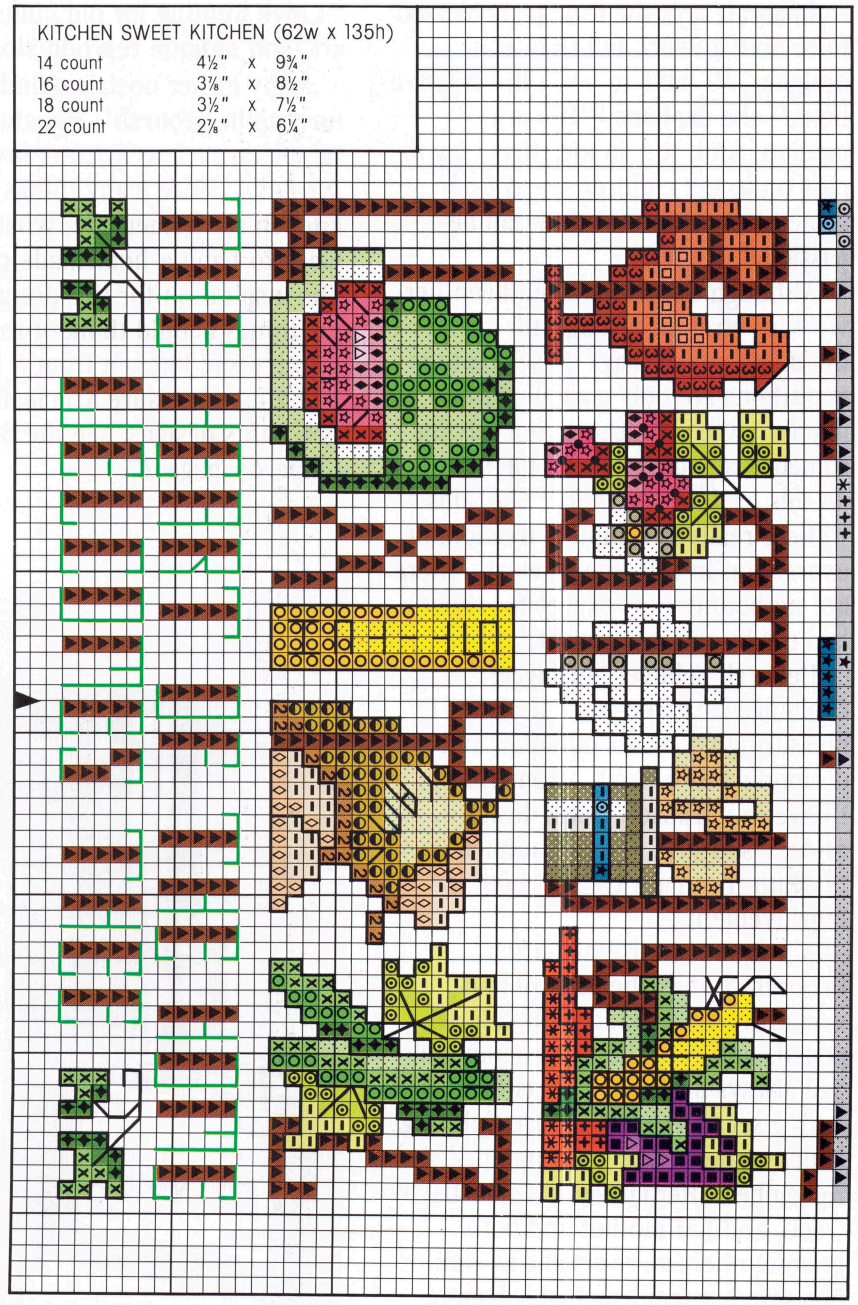
Deborah says that after living in Florida for 12 years, her family is really enjoying the Ohio countryside and the change of seasons.

A favorite family treat, especially around the holidays, is Deborah's pumpkin nut bread. The recipe is given below.

PUMPKIN NUT BREAD

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 3 cups sugar
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 1 can (16 ounces) pumpkin
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a medium bowl, combine flour, cinnamon, baking soda, cloves, nutmeg, and salt. In a large bowl, mix together sugar, oil, and pumpkin. Beat in eggs one at a time. Add dry ingredients to pumpkin mixture; stir until smooth. Stir in pecans. Pour batter into two 5 x 9-inch greased and floured loaf pans. Bake 50 to 60 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pans 10 minutes. Remove from pans and cool on a wire rack. Store in an airtight container.
Yield: 2 loaves bread



Note: Projects shown on page 15.

Framed Piece: Kitchen Sweet Kitchen was stitched on a 13" x 18" piece of Ivory Aida (14 ct). Two strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch, 2 for Backstitch watermelon seeds, and 1 for all other Backstitch and French Knots. It was custom framed.
Tote Bag: J, **A**, and **M**, and **Ivy** from the top and bottom of the design were stitched on an Ivory Lil' Tote (14 ct). Refer to photo for placement of the designs. Two strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch.
Recipe Holder: The motifs only from **E**, **P**, and, **H** (fill in omitted stitches with desired color), and **Ivy** from the top and bottom of the design were stitched on an 8" x 6" piece of Ivory Aida (14 ct). Two strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch. Refer to photo for placement of designs. It was inserted in a purchased candle screen (3½" x 2½" opening).

For recipe holder, refer to photo for placement and glue 2 miniature wooden clothespins to the frame.
Jar Lid: G was stitched on a 6" square of Ivory Aida (14 ct). Two strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch. It was inserted in a small mouth jar lid.

For jar lid, use **outer edge** of jar lid for pattern and draw a circle on adhesive mounting board. Cutting slightly inside drawn line, cut out circle. Using **opening** of jar lid for pattern, cut a circle of batting. Center batting on adhesive board and press in place. Center stitched piece on batting and press edges onto adhesive board; trim edges close to board. Glue board inside jar lid. (**Note:** A mason jar puff-up kit may also be used to finish jar lid.)

See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

KITCHEN SWEET KITCHEN (62w x 135h)

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
⁘	blanc	⁘		2	white
■	208			110	dk purple
△	209	◪		109	purple
V	211	◪		342	lt purple
3	301	◪		1049	rust
	312		⁄	979	vy dk blue
□	318			399	grey
○	320			215	green
★	322			978	dk blue
–	334			977	blue
X	347	◪		1025	red
✚	367			217	dk green
X	368			214	lt green
⁘	369			1043	vy lt green
□	402			1047	lt orange
+	415			398	lt grey
2	434	◪		310	lt brown
◒	436			1045	dk tan
☆	437			362	tan
⊙	471			266	yellow green
–	472			253	lt yellow green
▒	642	◪		392	dk beige
▒	644			830	beige
✚	721			324	dk orange
*	722			323	orange
⁘	738	◪		361	lt tan
⁘	739	◪		387	vy lt tan
○	743	◪		302	yellow
⁘	745			300	lt yellow
♦	760			1022	pink
△	761			1021	lt pink
⁘	775			128	vy lt blue
–	822			390	vy lt beige
	898		⁄	360	brown
▲	938	◪	⁄	381	dk brown
◊	945			881	peach
–	951			1010	lt peach
○	3033			391	lt beige
⊙	3325			129	lt blue
☆	3328			1024	lt red
–	3776			1048	lt rust
•	898	brown French Knot			

Grey area indicates last row of top section of design.

TEATIME POINSETTIAS

With our festive poinsettia garlands, it's easy to turn these simple projects into holiday favorites. The cheery mug and bread cloth set will add a splash of color to your Christmas repasts.

Mug: The design was stitched 4 times on a 10¼" x 3½" piece of Vinyl-Weave™ (14 ct). Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch, and 1 for Backstitch. The designs were stitched with top edge 5 squares from top edge of vinyl and left edge of design 14 squares from left edge of vinyl. It was inserted in a Stitch-A-Mug™.

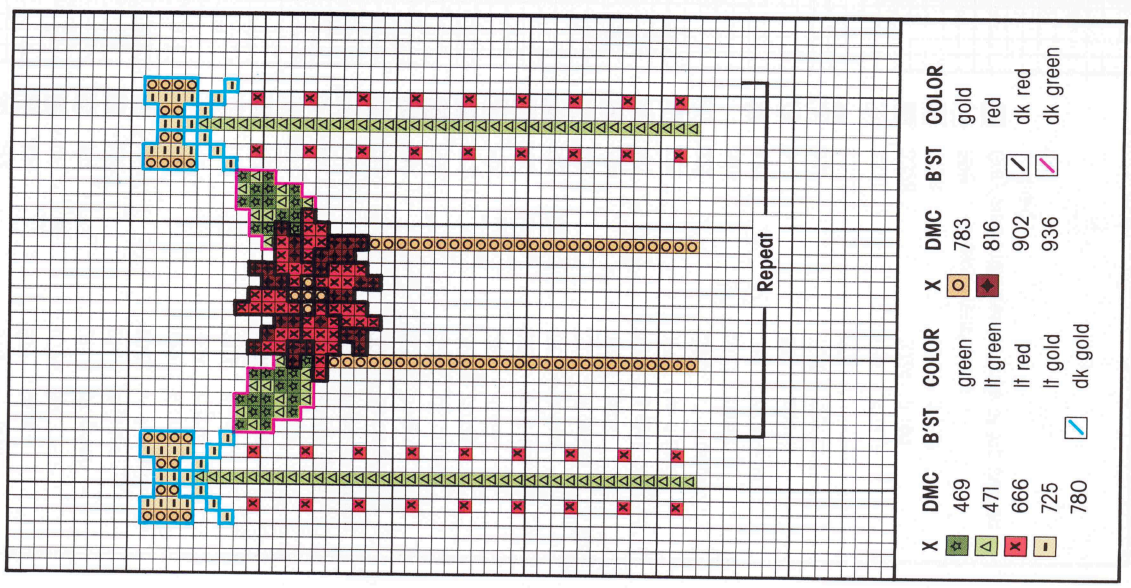
Place Vinyl-Weave™ in mug with short ends of vinyl aligned with handle. Hand wash mug to protect stitchery.

Bread Cover: The design, omitting stripes, was stitched 4 times on one side of a White Soft Touch™ Breadcover (14 ct). Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 2 for Backstitch. The designs were centered horizontally with bottom of designs ½" from beginning of fringe.

To finish corners of bread cover, cut 3" squares out of each corner. Machine stitch ½" away from raw edges; fringe fabric to machine-stitched lines.

See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies..

Designed by Jane Chandler.



GUARDIAN ANGELS

Blissfully unaware of any danger they may face, children rush to enjoy life with carefree abandon. For them, every new situation is viewed as an opportunity for adventure and discovery. *Devoted Escort,* the first design in our new two-part series, *Guardian Angels,* is a comforting reminder that someone greater is keeping watch over young innocents.

Each time in "Collections," we bring you part of a series of coordinating designs. In this issue, we begin *Guardian Angels,* a two-part series adapted from antique postcards.

Devoted Escort
In This Issue

Diligent Protector
In the March Issue

Devoted Escort was stitched on a 17" x 21" piece of Ivory Lugana (25 ct). The design was stitched over 2 fabric threads. Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch. It was custom framed. See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

Needlework adaptation by Carol Emmer.

DEVOTED ESCORT (104w x 158h)

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	COLOR
⁘	blanc	⁘		white
X	221	◪		red
3	312	◪		vy dk blue
▦	322	◪		dk blue
✦	334			blue
◫	336	◪		navy
2	353	◪		peach
	356		◪ *	vy dk peach
▩	420	◪	◪ †	vy dk gold
V	433	◪	◪	lt brown
◒	434	◪		vy dk tan
⁘	436	◪		dk tan
⊙	437			tan
◆	610	◪		dk khaki
▩	611	◪		khaki

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	COLOR
x	612	◪		lt khaki
⁘	613	◪		vy lt khaki
	646		◪ *	dk grey
○	648	◪		grey
C	676	◪		lt gold
$	677	◪		vy lt gold
◫	680	◪		dk gold
✦	729	◪		gold
☆	738			lt tan
x	739			vy lt tan
-	746			lt yellow
⁘	754	◪		lt peach
★	758	◪		dk peach
◫	760	◪		rose
V	761			lt rose

X	DMC	¼X	¾X	B'ST	COLOR
◫	775				lt blue
◊	801	◪			brown
▲	823	◪			dk navy
✱	895	◪		◪ †	vy dk green
	931	◪			grey blue
△	948	◪			vy lt peach
⁘	950	◪			lt salmon
$	3031			◪	dk brown
▩	3064	◪	◪		dk salmon
-	3072	◪			lt grey
▩	3328	◪			vy dk rose
▩	3345	◪			dk green
△	3346	◪			green
▩	3347	◪			lt green
V	3348	◪			vy lt green

X	DMC	¼X	¾X	B'ST	COLOR
$	3708	◪			pink
◆	3712	◪			dk rose
+	3713				vy lt rose
-	3721	◪		◪	lt red
◊	3756				vy lt blue
▩	3772	◪	◪		vy dk salmon
◊	3773	◪			salmon
○	3774				vy lt salmon
✱ ♦	Kreinik	◪			

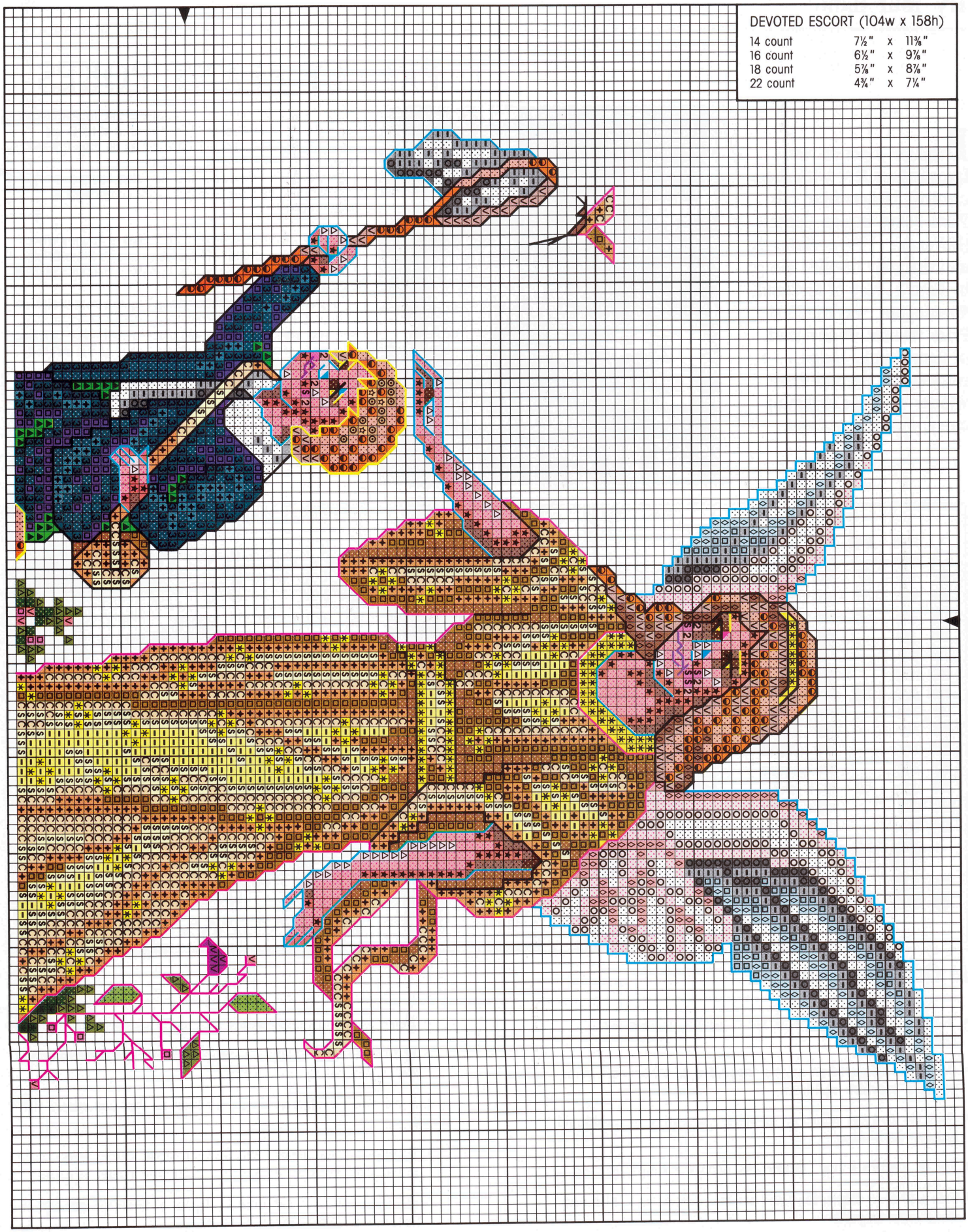
002 - Fine Braid

Grey area indicates last row of top section of design.

* Use dk grey for angel's wings and butterfly net and vy dk peach for all other.

† Use vy dk green for leaves and stems and vy dk gold for all other.

♦ Use 1 strand of Fine Braid.


DEVOTED ESCORT (104w x 158h)
14 count 7½" x 11⅜"
16 count 6½" x 9⅞"
18 count 5⅞" x 8⅞"
22 count 4¾" x 7¼"

PRETTY PLANT POKES

Brighten a pot of your favorite greenery with these creative designs from our Plant Pokes Design Contest (November 1993). *Butterfly,* an intricately detailed design by Kaye A. May of Kirkland, Washington, was the First Prize winner. Penny Duff of Kennebunk, Maine, cultivated a Second Prize winner with her charming entry, *Gardening Angel.*

Design #1 was stitched on a 7" square of Natural Perforated Paper (14 ct). Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch, 2 for Backstitch antennae, and 1 for all other Backstitch. See Using Perforated Paper, page 29.

For plant poke, trim paper approximately 1 square away from design. Glue one end of a dowel to center back of stitched piece.

Design #2 was stitched on a 7" x 8" piece of Antique White Aida (14 ct). Two strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch, 2 strands for gold and dk purple Backstitch, and 1 for all other Backstitch.

For plant poke, trim stitched piece 1 square from design on all sides. Cut a 4" x 5" piece of Lilac Aida (14 ct) for backing. Matching wrong side of stitched piece to right side of backing, cover back of stitched piece with craft glue; center stitched piece on backing and press together. Allow to dry. Trim backing 7 squares from stitched piece on all sides; fringe 4 squares on all sides. Glue one end of a dowel to center back of stitched piece.

See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

X	DMC	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
⁘	blanc		2	white
▩	310	⁄	403	black
V	316	⁄	1017	pink
▮	367	⁄	217	green
▣	368		214	lt green
△	535			grey
◒	606		334	dk orange
X	680	⁄	901	gold
□	740		316	orange
+	743		302	yellow
○	778		968	lt pink
✦	840		379	brown
◎	931	⁄	1034	blue
☆	932		1033	lt blue
◊	951		1010	peach
	3041	⁄	871	dk purple
	3042	⁄	870	purple
-	3047		852	lt gold
*	3743		869	lt purple

In Our Next Issue

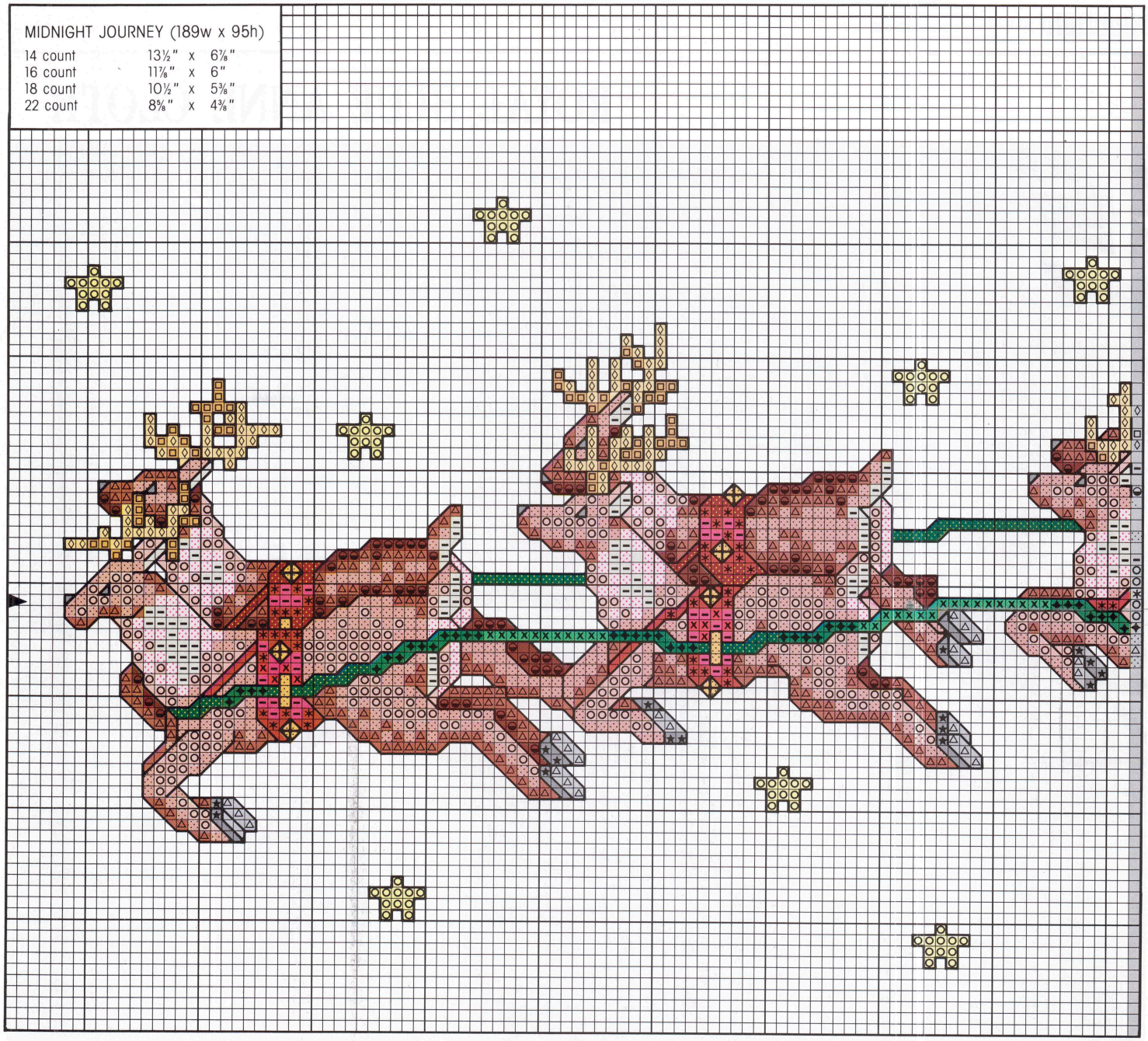
- Pretty French Stripe towels are charming accents for the kitchen.
- Our series of guardian angels concludes as a heavenly being protects carefree children.
- *Deck the Dragon* offers an amusing alternative to traditional holiday decorating.
- For St. Patrick's Day, shamrocks border a simple proverb.
- Kids will love displaying their art and schoolwork with our *three cute magnets.*
- Three mini totes make quick little gifts for special friends.
- You can brighten baby's nursery with our adorable sampler and coordinating accessories.
- A colorful sweatshirt design reminds us that sometimes life's a zoo.
- Wrapped in our hearts-and-flowers bread cloth, tasty thumbprint cookies are a sweet Valentine's Day surprise.
- Victorian charm is captured in a pair of nostalgic projects by featured designer Maryanne Moreck.

ROYAL BLUE ANNE CLOTH

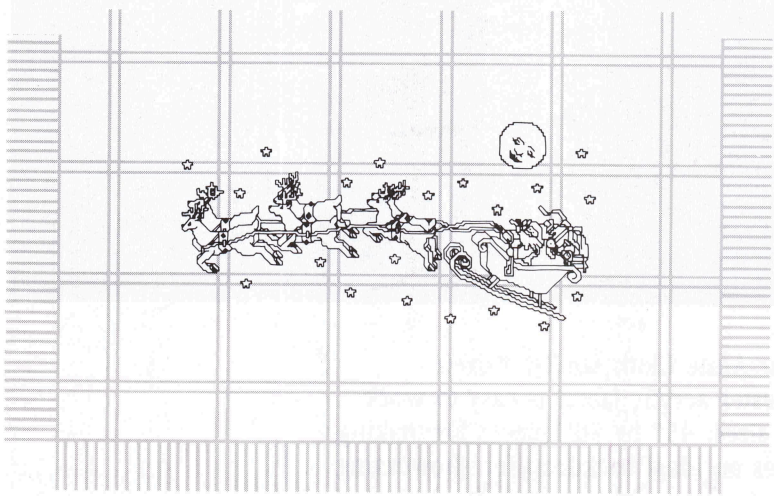
Vibrant Royal Blue is the latest addition to our popular Anne Cloth family. Woven exclusively for Leisure Arts by Zweigart, the 18 count polyester acrylic fabric is easy to work over two threads. The affordable fabric is available in two sizes: 45″ by 58″ pieces for making afghans and 11″ squares for pillows. This rich shade makes an ideal backdrop for showcasing designs such as Santa's moonlit journey.

MIDNIGHT JOURNEY (189w x 95h)

14 count	13½"	x	6⅞"
16 count	11⅞"	x	6"
18 count	10½"	x	5⅜"
22 count	8⅜"	x	4⅜"



Diagram



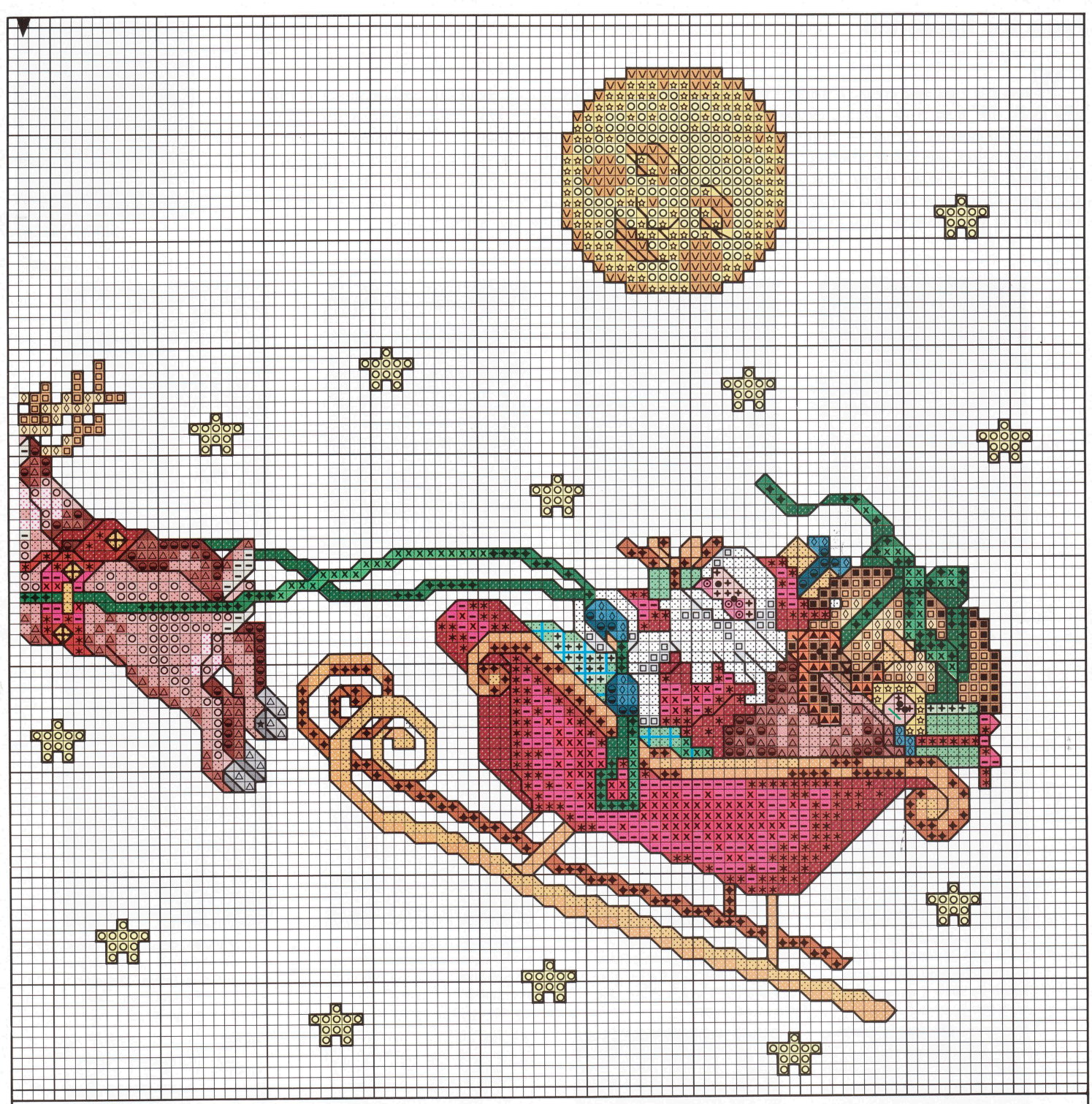
The design was stitched on a 45" x 58" piece (standard afghan size) of Royal Blue Anne Cloth (18 ct).

For afghan, cut off selvages of fabric; measure 5½" from raw edge of fabric and pull out one fabric thread. Fringe fabric up to missing thread. Repeat for each side. Tie an overhand knot at each corner with 4 horizontal and 4 vertical fabric threads. Working from corners, use 8 fabric threads for each knot until all threads are knotted.

Refer to Diagram for placement of design on afghan. Stitch design over 2 fabric threads, using 6 strands of floss for Cross Stitch and 2 for Backstitch and French Knots (unless otherwise noted in color key).

See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

Original Artwork by Peggy Jo Ackley for Family Line Greetings, Inc.
Needlework adaptation by Jane Chandler.



MIDNIGHT JOURNEY (189w x 95h)

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	COLOR
⁘	blanc	⁘	⁄	white
−	ecru			ecru
	310		⁄	black
−	321	◪		red
⊙	353	◪		peach
▲	434	◪		vy dk tan
■	435	◪		dk tan
□	436	◪		tan
◊	437	◪		lt tan
✳	498	◪		dk red
⁘	543	⁘		beige

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	COLOR
△	646	◪		grey
×	666		⁄	lt red
☆	676	◪		lt golden brown
▩	699	◪		vy dk green
◆	700	◪		dk green
×	701	◪		green
⁘	702	◪		lt green
+	703	◪		vy lt green
⁘	725	◪		dk yellow
V	729			golden brown
+	754	◪		lt peach

X	DMC	¼X	COLOR
◆	782	◪	dk gold
⁘	783	◪	gold
▩	815	◪	vy dk red
▩	825	◪	dk blue
◊	826	◪	blue
▩	839	◪	dk brown
△	840	◪	brown
⁘	841	◪	lt brown
○	842	◪	vy lt brown
★	844	◪	dk grey
□	3072	◪	lt grey

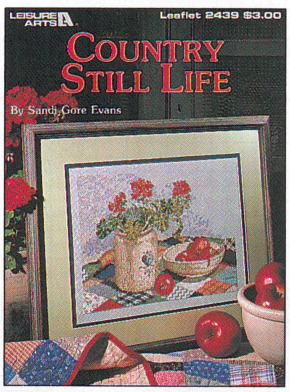
X	DMC	¼X	COLOR
○	3078		yellow
●	* 310		black French Knot
	Grey area indicates first row of right section of design.		
*	Use 3 strands for bear's eyes. Use 1 strand for doll's eyes.		

From the Bookshelf

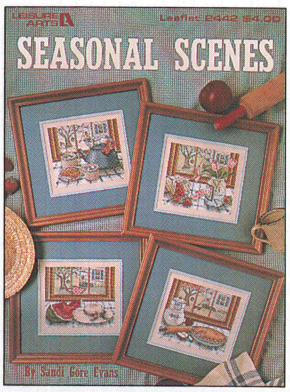
SUSAN WILES

When it's cold and dreary outside, I like to warm myself up by thinking about the coming summer. One way to do this is to cross stitch a design reflecting the images of the season. Our latest books portray lots of beautiful summertime scenes — from bold sunflowers to colorful hummingbirds. Two new books that are not shown below are *The Ivy Twines* (#2423, $3.00), featuring lovely rose and ivy wreaths and an angel by Heartprint, Inc., and *Be Happy Bibs* (#2437, $3.00) with 8 adorable designs from Terrie Lee Steinmeyer. Also, Jane Chandler's *Tasteful Bread Cloths* (#2450, $3.00) has 9 simple floral designs. Ask for these books and more at your favorite local needlecraft shop or see the Buyer's Guide that begins on page 27.

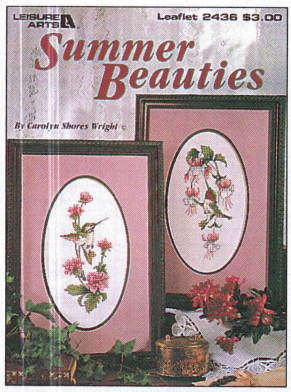
A ribbon-tied arrangement of sunflowers, berries, and a bird nest captures the beauty of the season in ***Bittersweet Summer*** (#2428, $3.00).



Like a slice of country living, ***Country Still Life*** (#2439, $3.00) shows us the charm of simple accents like a flower-filled crock and a bowl of apples.

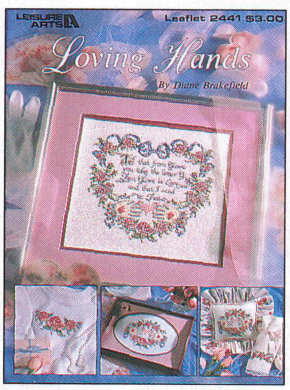


Looking out at nature's playground from the kitchen window, ***Seasonal Scenes*** (#2442, $4.00) provides 4 wonderful glimpses of the seasons.

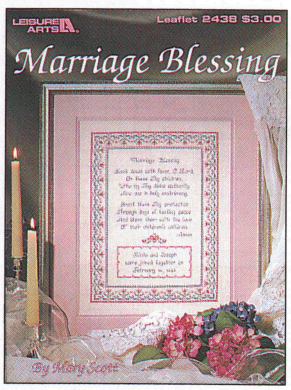


There are 2 lovely portraits of hummingbirds amid pretty flowers in ***Summer Beauties*** (#2436, $3.00). The designs are elegant additions for any room.

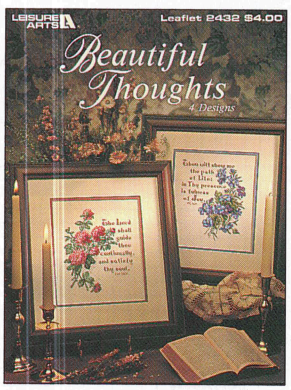
Short and Sweet Fingertips (#2444, $3.50) has 10 designs to adorn fingertip towels. Each features a timeless message and an endearing motif.



In ***Loving Hands*** (#2441, $3.00), 2 Victorian designs add romantic flair to a framed piece, a sweater, a tray, a pillow, and a sweet sachet.

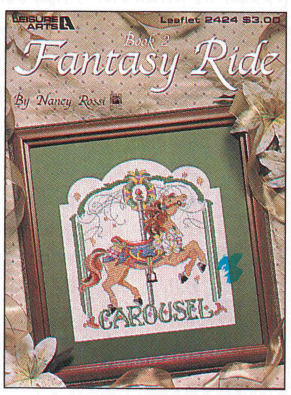


Marriage Blessing (#2438, $3.00) conveys a warm sentiment for newlyweds. Personalized and surrounded by a pretty border, it's sure to be a treasured gift.

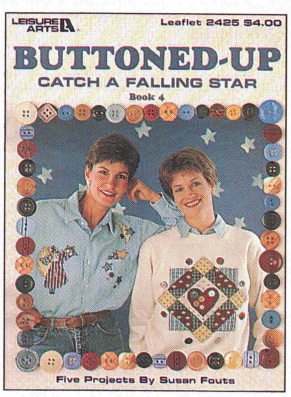


Inspirational passages and small bouquets of blossoms embellish the 4 designs in ***Beautiful Thoughts*** (#2432, $4.00). Each will speak softly to your spirit.

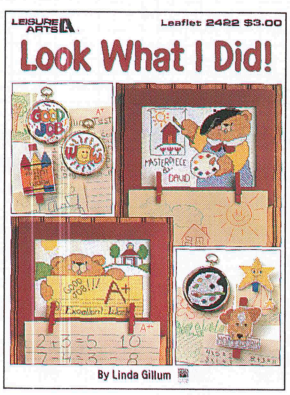
Celestial bodies stitched on the new Royal Blue Anne Cloth have eye-catching appeal in ***Heavenly Afghan*** (#2429, $3.00). The sun is also shown on a pillow.



Have a carnival of fun stitching the enchanting design in ***Fantasy Ride — Book 2*** (#2424, $3.00). It will bring back the childhood magic of a carousel ride.



Quilt motifs and country angels add a homespun touch to clothes in ***Buttoned-Up: Catch a Falling Star*** (#2425, $4.00). Buttons and bows accent the 5 designs.



Look What I Did (#2422, $3.00) provides 8 cheery designs for showing off your little one's work. There are cute magnets, as well as two framed pieces.

LADY ELIZABETH CHRISTMAS AFGHAN

Classic elegance characterizes Charles Craft's new Lady Elizabeth Christmas Afghan. Woven in rich cranberry and deep teal, the 14 count material offers 20 large squares for stitching, each bordered by a beautiful Star Weave pattern. The machine-washable afghan measures 50″ wide by 60″ high and is made of a soft, wrinkle-resistant Trevira/Viscose blend. It also features a generous ready-to-fringe border and comes with simple fringing instructions.

VELVET CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS

Hang these luxurious Velvet Christmas Stockings by the fireplace this year, and Santa's sure to fill them with lots of delightful trinkets. Presented by Charles Craft, the lush stockings are available in holiday red or green. Each measures 14″ tall and features a 4″ wide by 4½″ high cuff of 28 count White Irish Linen that is trimmed with gold braid. Reminiscent of the opulent Victorian Era, the stockings are made of cotton velvet and have a sumptuous lining of contrasting red or green taffeta.

Designs from the Christmas 1993 issue of Celebrations To Cross Stitch And Craft.

To obtain these products, visit your local needlecraft shop or see the Buyer's Guide that begins on this page.

How to Write to Us

• ***FOR "EDITOR'S SCRAPBOOK," "MARK YOUR CALENDAR," and "A HELPING HAND,"*** *write to* For The Love Of Cross Stitch *(please specify department), P.O. Box 5595, Little Rock, AR 72215. Please include your daytime telephone number.*

• ***FOR SUBMITTING RECIPES,*** *write to "In Good Taste,"* For The Love Of Cross Stitch, *P.O. Box 5595, Little Rock, AR 72215. Please send each recipe on a separate sheet of paper or card; include your name, address, and daytime telephone number. Contributors' names will accompany published recipes. We reserve the right to edit all recipes and use them in any Leisure Arts publication. Recipes will not be acknowledged or returned.*

Your local needlecraft shop is always the best place to start when shopping for your cross stitch needs. However, if you cannot find an item locally and it is listed in our Buyer's Guide, you may use this order form (or call our toll-free number for Visa or MasterCard orders) to purchase it by mail from us.

Please use the blank next to each item number to indicate quantity.

• PAGE 6: Jar Toppers and Tags
____ #9001-34 Natural Perforated Paper (14 ct), 9″ x 12″ sheets, pack of 12, $12.50

• PAGES 7-9: In a Twinkling
____ #11859-34 Mushroom Lugana (25 ct), 18″ x 27″ piece, $8.40
____ #12441-34 Jade (#00431) Glass Seed Beads, approx. 500, $1.20
____ #12402-34 Old Gold (#00557) Glass Seed Beads, approx. 500, $1.20
____ #12387-34 Red Red (#02013) Glass Seed Beads, approx. 500, $1.20

• PAGES 10-11: Hearts for the Holidays
____ #10279-34 Ivory Aida (14 ct), 30″ x 36″ piece, $13.50
____ #49141-34 Kreinik Gold (#002HL) Blending Filament, 50 meter spool, $1.30
____ #49140-34 Kreinik Silver (#001HL) Blending Filament, 50 meter spool, $1.30
____ #49124-34 Kreinik Pearl (#032) Blending Filament, 50 meter spool, $1.30
____ #12409-34 White (#00479) Glass Seed Beads, approx. 500, $1.20
____ #12387-34 Red Red (#02013) Glass Seed Beads, approx. 500, $1.20
____ #32296-34 Soft Mount™ Padded Mount Board, 11″ x 14″ piece, $8.09
____ #32294-34 Cushy Mount™ Padded Mount Board, 11″ x 14″ piece, $9.29

• PAGES 12-13: Seasoned Greetings
____ #11847-34 Waste Canvas (10 mesh), 1 yard piece (27″ wide), $8.90
____ #10692-34 Natural Canvas Apron, $9.00

• PAGES 14-17: Kitchen Sweet Kitchen
____ #10629-34 Ivory Lil' Tote (14 ct), $5.00
____ #10523-34 Ivory Aida (14 ct), 15″ x 18″ piece, $4.00
____ #12052-34 Small Mouth Mason Jar Puff-Up Kit, $.98
____ #31892-34 Candlescreen Frame with 3½″ x 2½″ opening, $12.75
Leaflets of Deborah Lambein designs:
____ #2318-34 More Holiday Bread Cloths, $3.00
____ #2307-34 Kitchen Sweet Kitchen, $3.00
____ #2239-34 Kitchen Pledge, $4.00
____ #2201-34 Kitchen Sampler, $3.00
____ #2063-34 For My Room, $2.50

• PAGE 18: Teatime Poinsettias
____ #11809-34 White Soft Touch™ Breadcover (14 ct), $5.90
____ #12359-34 Red Crafter's Pride® Stitch-A-Mug™, $6.50

• PAGES 19-21: Guardian Angels — Part 1
____ #11833-34 Ivory Lugana (25 ct), 18″ x 27″ piece, $8.40
____ #49311-34 Kreinik Gold (#002) Fine (#8) Braid, 10 meter spool, $2.86

• PAGE 22: Pretty Plant Pokes
____ #10536-34 Lilac Aida (14 ct), 15″ x 18″ piece, $4.00
____ #10524-34 Antique White Aida (14 ct), 15″ x 18″ piece, $4.00
____ #9001-34 Natural Perforated Paper (14 ct), 9″ x 12″ sheets, pack of 12, $12.50

• PAGES 23-25: Royal Blue Anne Cloth
____ #11658-34 Royal Blue Anne Cloth (18 ct), 45″ x 58″ piece, $39.50

• PAGE 26: From the Bookshelf
____ #2450-34 Tasteful Bread Cloths, $3.00
____ #2444-34 Short and Sweet Fingertips, $3.50
____ #2442-34 Seasonal Scenes, $4.00
____ #2441-34 Loving Hands, $3.00
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____ #2432-34 Beautiful Thoughts, $4.00
____ #2429-34 Heavenly Afghan, $3.00
____ #2428-34 Bittersweet Summer, $3.00
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____ #2424-34 Fantasy Ride — Book 2, $3.00
____ #2423-34 The Ivy Twines, $3.00
____ #2422-34 Look What I Did, $3.00

Continued on page 28

Buyer's Guide *(continued)*

• PAGE 27: Trendsetters

____ #12218-34 Lady Elizabeth Christmas Afghan (14 ct), $45.00
____ #13427-34 Green Velvet Christmas Stocking with White Irish Linen (28 ct) Cuff, $15.00
____ #13426-34 Red Velvet Christmas Stocking with White Irish Linen (28 ct) Cuff, $15.00

• MISCELLANEOUS

Anne Cloth (18 ct)	45″ x 58″ afghan	Two 11″ pillow squares
Soft White	____ #11053-34, $29.50	____ #11650-34, $3.00
Ivory	____ #11630-34, $29.50	____ #11640-34, $3.00
Dusty Rose	____ #11631-34, $35.00	____ #11641-34, $3.00
Antique Blue	____ #11632-34, $35.00	____ #11642-34, $3.00
Taupe	____ #11633-34, $35.00	____ #11643-34, $3.00
Antique Blue Windowpane	____ #11634-34, $35.00	____ #11644-34, $3.00
Dusty Rose Windowpane	____ #11635-34, $35.00	____ #11645-34, $3.00
Taupe Windowpane	____ #11636-34, $35.00	____ #11646-34, $3.00
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Baby Yellow Windowpane	____ #11638-34, $35.00	____ #11648-34, $3.00
Baby Pink Windowpane	____ #11639-34, $35.00	____ #11649-34, $3.00
Baby Blue Solid	____ #11651-34, $35.00	____ #11661-34, $3.00
Baby Yellow Solid	____ #11652-34, $35.00	____ #11662-34, $3.00
Baby Pink Solid	____ #11653-34, $35.00	____ #11663-34, $3.00
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Cranberry	____ #11655-34, $39.50	____ #11665-34, $3.00
Peach	____ #11656-34, $35.00	____ #11666-34, $3.00
Seafoam Green	____ #11657-34, $35.00	____ #11667-34, $3.00
Royal Blue	____ #11658-34, $39.50	____ #11688-34, $3.00
Midnight Black	____ #11670-34, $39.50	____ #11660-34, $3.00

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____ #2072-34 Cross Stitch for Beginners, $4.00
____ #2142-34 Harvest Hill, $2.50

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A Helping Hand

SANDRA CASE

At Leisure Arts, we have never been too excited about using needlework finisher on our stitched pieces because it dulled the floss colors with a milky coating. We loved the projects the finisher allowed us to create, such as refrigerator magnets and Christmas ornaments, but we felt that the color change was just too dramatic to justify using the product very much.

Then, a leading cross stitch designer submitted some cross-stitched pins that had been stiffened with needlework finisher and they looked fantastic! The floss colors were almost unchanged by the finisher. We called her immediately to find out her secret. It was so simple that we couldn't believe we hadn't thought of it ourselves. She had simply applied the finisher to the back of the cross-stitched project instead of the front. The fabric was just as stiff, but the colors were affected very little. What a terrific and easy idea!

This is the type of idea that we love to share in this column. If you have a hint or a better way of doing something involving cross stitch, please write to us. We'd love to write about your ideas. Our address is:

"A Helping Hand"
For The Love Of Cross Stitch
P.O. Box 5595
Little Rock, AR 72215

Happy Stitching!

Mark Your Calendar

Announcements of general interest to our readers are published free as space permits. Please submit information at least six months before the scheduled event.

• GOLDEN SWAN NEEDLEWORK EXHIBITION — The Women's Educational and Industrial Union will sponsor a needlework exhibit **November 12-21** at the WEIU Needlework Shop in **Boston, Massachusetts**. For more information, send a business-size SASE* to WEIU, 356 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116 or call Jacqueline Frantz at (617) 536-5651.

• 1994 JUDGED NEEDLEARTS SHOW AND EXHIBIT — The Sand Dunes Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America will sponsor a needlework exhibit **February 26-27** at the Arts and Design Society Gallery in **Fort Walton Beach, Florida**. For more information, send a business-size SASE* to Sand Dunes Chapter, EGA, 38 Waynell Circle, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548 or call Ellen Gordon at (904) 243-3209.

• DELIGHTS BY THE DOZEN 1994 QUILT SHOW — The Foothill Quilters Guild will hold its 12th annual quilt show **February 26-27** at the Gold Country Fair Grounds in **Auburn, California.** For more information, send a business-size SASE* to FQG, Attn. Sue Nelson, 11665 Joeger Road, Auburn, CA 95602 or call (916) 823-2623.

• NATIONAL NEEDLEWORK CONVENTION — The Sewing and Fine Needlework Guild will hold its national convention **March 3-6** at the Gatlinburg Convention Center in **Gatlinburg, Tennessee**. For more information, send a business-size SASE* to SFNG, P.O. Box 1606, Knoxville, TN 37901 or call Michelle Wood at (615) 524-2401.

• COUNTED CROSS STITCH SHOW — Patches, etc. will sponsor its fifth annual counted cross stitch show **March 4-6** in **St. Charles, Missouri**. For more information, send a business-size SASE* to Patches, etc., 341 South Main Street, St. Charles, MO 63301 or call at (314) 946-8016.

• SPIRIT OF CROSS-STITCH FESTIVAL — Jean Farish Needleworks, Inc., and *Cross Stitch & Country Crafts* magazine will sponsor the Spirit of Cross-Stitch Festival® **March 11-13** in **Winston-Salem, North Carolina; June 10-12** in **Buffalo, New York; September 9-11** in **Des Moines, Iowa;** and **October 21-23** in **Sacramento, California**. For more information, send a business-size SASE* (75 cents U.S. postage) to Spirit of Cross-Stitch Festival, 6000 Market Square Court, Suite 3, Clemmons, NC 27012. (Please indicate on the bottom-left corner of the envelope which festival city information you are requesting.) Or call Kay Chelena at (919) 766-5180.

***SASE — self-addressed stamped envelope.**

STITCH DIAGRAMS

Counted Cross Stitch (X): Work one Cross Stitch to correspond to each colored square on the chart. For horizontal rows, work stitches in two journeys (**Fig. 1**). For vertical rows, complete each stitch as shown (**Fig. 2**). When working over two fabric threads, work Cross Stitch as shown in **Fig. 3**. When the chart shows a Backstitch crossing a colored square (**Fig. 4**), a Cross Stitch should be worked first; then the Backstitch (**Fig. 8**) should be worked on top of the Cross Stitch.

Fig. 1

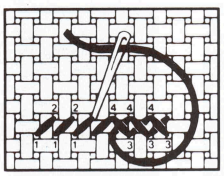


Fig. 2

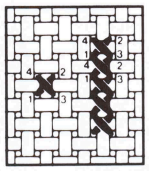
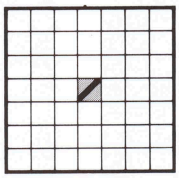


Fig. 3

Fig. 4



Quarter Stitch (¼X and ¾X): Quarter Stitches are denoted by triangular shapes of color on the chart and on the color key. For the One-Quarter Stitch (¼X), come up at 1 (**Fig. 5**); then split fabric thread to go down at 2. When stitches 1-4 are worked in the same color, the resulting stitch is called a Three-Quarter Stitch (¾X). **Fig. 6** shows the technique for Quarter Stitches when working over two fabric threads.

Fig. 5

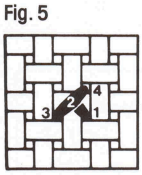
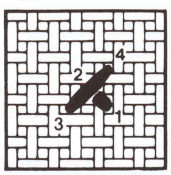
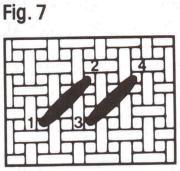


Fig. 6



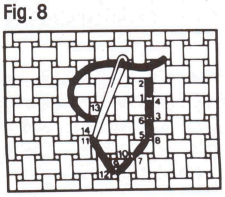
Half Cross Stitch (½X): This stitch is one journey of the Cross Stitch and is worked from lower left to upper right. **Fig. 7** shows the Half Cross Stitch worked over two fabric threads.

Fig. 7



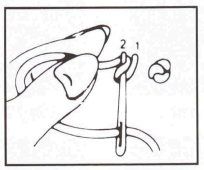
Backstitch (B'ST): For outline detail, Backstitch (shown on chart and on color key by black or colored straight lines) should be worked after the design has been completed (**Fig. 8**).

Fig. 8



French Knot: Bring needle up at 1. Wrap floss once around needle and insert needle at 2, holding end of floss with non-stitching fingers (**Fig. 9**). Tighten knot; then pull needle through fabric, holding floss until it must be released. For larger knot, use more strands; wrap only once.

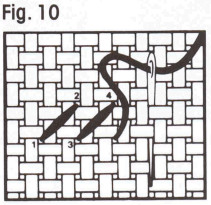
Fig. 9



STITCHING TIPS

Working Over Two Fabric Threads: Use the sewing method instead of the stab method when working over two fabric threads. To use the sewing method, keep your stitching hand on the right side of the fabric (instead of stabbing the fabric with the needle and taking your stitching hand to the back of the fabric to pick up the needle). With the sewing method, you take the needle down and up with one stroke instead of two. To add support to stitches, it is important that the first Cross Stitch is placed on the fabric with stitch 1-2 beginning and ending where a vertical fabric thread crosses over a horizontal fabric thread (**Fig. 10**). When the first stitch is in the correct position, the entire design will be placed properly, with vertical fabric threads supporting each stitch.

Fig. 10



Using Perforated Paper: (**Note:** Perforated paper has a right side and a wrong side. The right side is smoother and stitching should be done on this side.) Do not fold paper to locate center. Use a ruler to measure width and height of paper; then mark lightly with a pencil at center of measurements. Perforated paper will tear if handled roughly; therefore, hold paper flat while stitching and do not use a hoop. Use the stab method when stitching; thread pulled too tightly may tear the paper. Carry floss across back as little as possible to prevent threads on wrong side of paper from showing through holes. After stitching, carefully erase visible pencil marks.

ORNAMENT FINISHING

(Projects shown on page 11.)

For each heart ornament, you will need tracing paper, an 8" square of Ivory Aida (14ct) for backing, 10" x 5" piece of adhesive board, 10" x 5" piece of batting, 13" length of ¼" dia. cording with attached seam allowance, 2¼" tassel, six-strand embroidery floss for twisted cord hanger, and clear-drying craft glue.

For each heart pattern, fold tracing paper in half and place fold on dashed line of pattern; trace. Cut out traced pattern; unfold. Draw around Small Heart pattern twice on adhesive board and twice on batting; cut out. Remove paper from adhesive board and stick one batting piece on each adhesive board piece. Center Large Heart pattern over stitched piece; draw around pattern. Cut out stitched piece. Cut backing fabric same size as stitched piece.

For ornament front, clip ⅜" into edges of stitched piece at ½" intervals. Center stitched piece over batting side of one adhesive board piece; fold edges to wrong side and glue in place. Repeat with backing fabric and remaining adhesive board piece for ornament back.

Refer to photo for placement and glue cording seam allowance to wrong side of ornament front beginning at top point of heart. Glue tassle to wrong side of ornament front at bottom of heart.

For twisted cord hanger, cut two 30" lengths of six-strand embroidery floss (we used DMC 311, 500, and 902). Fold floss lengths in half and knot all ends together. Holding knot with one hand, insert one finger of other hand through loop of floss and twist until tight on finger. Holding floss so that it will not untwist, remove finger. Fold floss in half, matching the knot to the loop; knot them together. Holding knot with one hand, use other hand to stretch and slowly release floss to make a smooth cord. Glue ends of cord to wrong side of ornament front at top of heart. Glue wrong sides of ornament front and back together. Weight with a heavy book until glue is dry.

WALL HANGING FINISHING

(Project shown on page 7.)

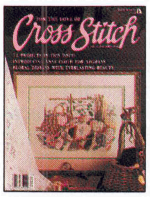
(**Note:** Use a ½" seam allowance for all seams.) You will need, ¾ yd 45" wide fabric for borders, hanging tabs, and backing, 18" square of craft fleece, thread to match fabric, and an 18" length of wooden dowel and end caps.

Center and trim stitched piece to measure 11¼" x 13¼". For borders, cut two 11¼" x 3½" and two 18¼" x 3½" pieces of fabric. Matching right sides and raw edges, sew one 11¼" border to top of stitched piece. Repeat with remaining 11¼" border and bottom of stitched piece. Press seam allowances toward borders. Sew one 18¼" border to each side of stitched piece and attached borders. Press seam allowances toward borders. Cut one piece each of fleece and backing fabric same size as wall hanging front.

For hanging tabs, cut four 5½" x 7" pieces of fabric. Matching right sides and raw edges, fold tab in half and sew long edges tgether. Turn right side out. With seam centered in back, press tab flat. Matching raw edges, fold tab in half. Repeat for remaining tabs. Referring to photo for placement, match right sides and raw edges and pin tabs to wall hanging front; baste in place close to raw edges.

Lay wall hanging front right side up on flat work surface. Matching right sides, place backing fabric on wall hanging front and fleece on top of backing fabric. Leaving an opening for turning, sew all layers together. Trim corners diagonally and turn right side out. Sew final closure by hand. Insert dowel through hanging tabs.

DON'T MISS A STITCH!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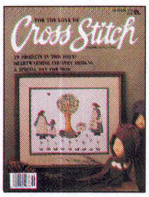
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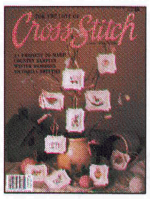
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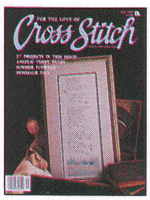
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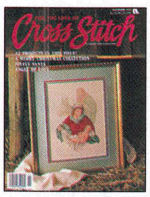
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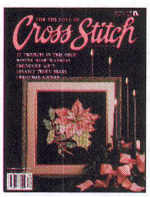
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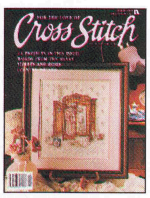
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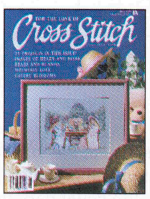
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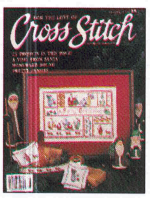
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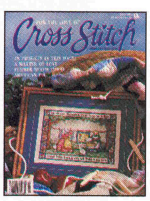
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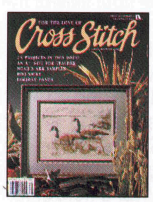
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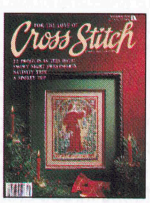
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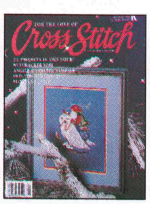
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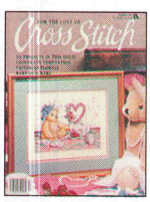
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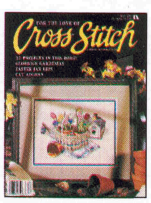
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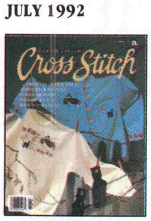
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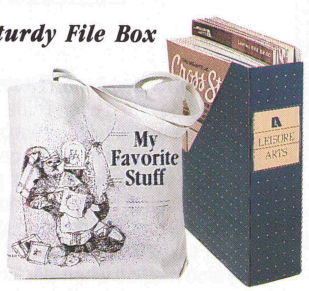

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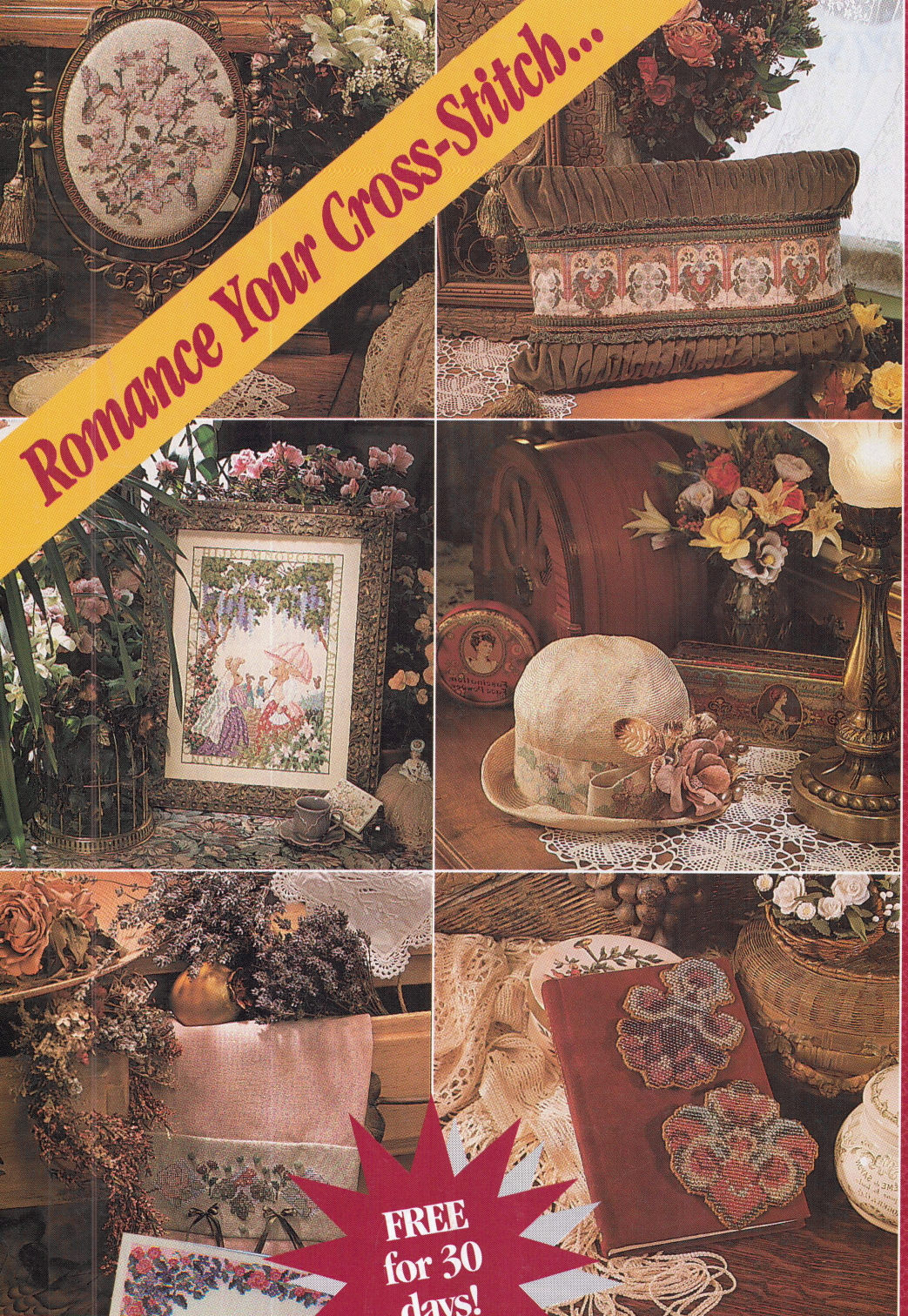

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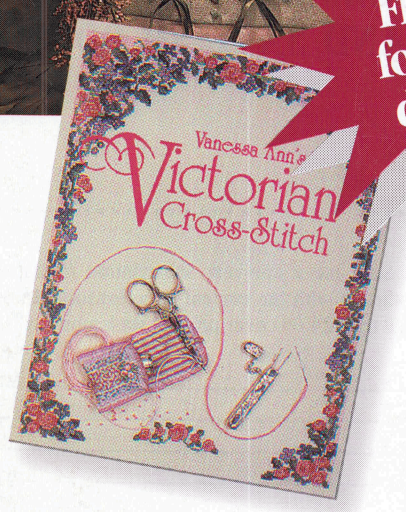

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